

Serial No. 09/903,704

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Section III:
AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.121 to the
DRAWINGS

No amendments or changes to the Drawings are proposed.

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Section IV:
AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.121
REMARKS

Objections to the Specification

In the Office Action, an objection to paragraph [0053] has been made regarding a typographical error. The typographical error has been corrected by the present amendment, and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Objections to Claims, Indication of Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action, objections to Claims 18 and 19 have been made for containing an apparent typographical error referring to Claim 7 instead of Claim 17. The typographical error has been corrected by the present amendment, and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

An objection to Claim 3 has been made for depending on a rejected claim. Claim 3 has been indicated as otherwise defining patentable matter in the Office Action, and would be allowable if re-written to remove dependency from a rejected claim. Please refer to the following remarks for an explanation of the resolution of this objection.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, and 4 - 24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) for lack of novelty as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 5,347,578 to Duxbury (hereinafter "Duxbury"). Claims 1, 4, 9, 12, 17 and 20 are independent claims.

Claim 3 has been indicated as defining patentable matter. Claim 3 is directed towards the step, element or limitation of our invention which allows reuse of a finite number action indicators in association with a plurality of action group tags or action group containers, wherein each action indicator combined with the group tag or container can be assigned a unique permission. In this manner, the number of permissions which can be controlled is expanded to beyond just the number of action indicators, but to an upper limit equal to the product of the number of allowable action indicators and the number of action tags or action containers.

In the present amendment, we have amended this step, element or limitation into the independent claims 1, 4, 9, 12, 17 and 20. This renders claims 1 - 24 patentably distinguished

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over Duxbury.

Additionally, in claims 3, 11, and 19, we have made amendment to specify that the protected system resource is a computer file received by a local computer from a remote computer over a computer network, consistent with our disclosure at paragraphs [0027], [0034], [0050] and [0059]. No new matter is added by this amendment.

In view of the present amendment, Duxbury does not properly anticipate the claimed invention, as it fails to disclose all the claimed steps, elements or limitations. MPEP 2131 states:

TO ANTICIPATE A CLAIM, THE REFERENCE MUST TEACH EVERY
ELEMENT OF THE CLAIM (*capitalization emphasis found in original text*)

Allowance of the claims as amended is requested.

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